

Notice of Allowability

Application No.

10/754,027

Applicant(s)

OH ET AL.

Examiner

Art Unit

Sung H. Pak

2874

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to Amendment filed 9/05/2006.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1-16, 18 and 19.
3. ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.

THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

4. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
5. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
- (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
- 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
6. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

1. ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. ☐ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO/SB/08),
Paper No./Mail Date _____
4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit
of Biological Material
5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application
6. ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413),
Paper No./Mail Date _____
7. ☐ Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. ☒ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. ☐ Other _____

DETAILED ACTION

Applicants' amendment filed 9/05/2006 has been entered. All pending claims have been carefully reconsidered in view of the amendment.

Allowable Subject Matter

Claims 1-16, 18-19 are allowed.

The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

Applicants' arguments for patentability presented in the amendment are convincing. Particularly, none of the prior art fairly teaches or suggests a photonic crystal fiber preform wherein, inter alia, the distribution of refractive index is changed by the arrangement of at least two distinct members having distinct refractive indices, respectively, in the manner claimed and recited in the instant application.

A close prior art, Argyros et al (US 2005/0018986 A1) does disclose plurality of holes disposed in a cylindrical, or rod-shaped substrate.

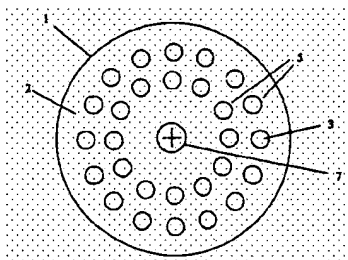


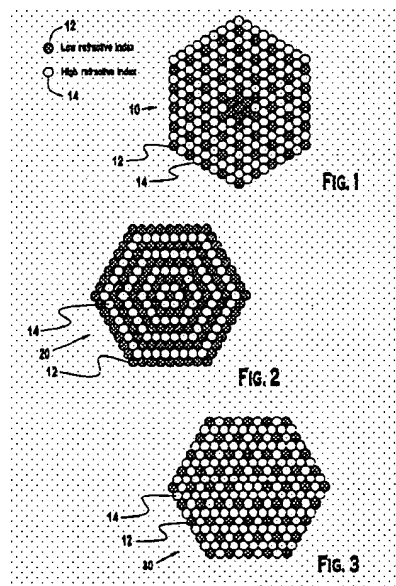
Fig. 3 of Argyros et al.

Argyros reference discloses that these holes may be filled with air, or other materials having "different chemical compositions, densities or refractive indices." (paragraph 0010). However, Argyros reference does not disclose that these holes may be filled with at least two members

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having two different indices of refraction, as claimed. More importantly, Argyros reference does not explicitly teach that the distribution of refractive index of the preform “is changed by the arrangement of members” that are placed in the hole. While Argyros reference teach various examples of what the resulting optical fiber may be, however, it does not teach that these different functionalities are attributed by the change in the arrangement of the members that have different refractive indices.

Also, Cryan et al (US 6,598,428 B1) discloses a close prior art, wherein the arrangement of plurality of cylindrical rods (with different refractive indices) change the distribution of refractive index of the resulting preform.



Figs. 1-3 of Cryan et al.

However, the fiber preform apparatus of Cryan is materially different from the claimed invention of the present application, especially since Cryan does NOT use plurality of holes formed in a rod-shaped substrate and having plurality of members disposed in the holes, as claimed in the instant application.

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Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Sung H. Pak whose telephone number is (571) 272-2353. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday- Friday, 9AM-5PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Rodney Bovernick can be reached on (571)272-2344. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.



Sung H. Pak
Primary Patent Examiner
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